IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

(Currently amended) A computer network system, comprising:
a circuit board forming a backplane;

[[a]] at least one field replaceable unit (FRU) slot located on said backplane; a bus;

a central resource coupled with said FRU slot via said bus, wherein said central resource is configured to generate a client-ID, wherein said client-ID is associated with said FRU slot; and a non-volatile memory coupled to said central resource, wherein said client-ID is stored in said non-volatile memory;

wherein said central resource generates a client ID; and wherein said client ID is associated with said FRU slot

wherein, when an FRU is connected to said FRU slot, said central resource is configured to retrieve said client-ID and provide said client-ID to said FRU, wherein said FRU is configured to download said client-ID via said bus.

- 2. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, wherein said FRU slot comprises a Compact Peripheral Component Interconnect (CPCI) slot.
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, wherein said client-ID comprises one of a serial number, part number, and a geographical address of said FRU slot.
- 5. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, wherein said client-ID comprises a unique identifier and wherein said unique identifier prevents an FRU from clashing with other network devices.

- 6. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, wherein said client-ID comprises a client-id utilized by an address protocol for assigning dynamic Internet Protocol (IP) addresses.
- 7. (Original) The computer network system of claim 6, wherein said address protocol comprises a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP).
- 8. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, further comprises an FRU held by said FRU slot.
- 9. (Cancelled)
- 10. (Currently amended) The computer network system of claim [[9]] 8, wherein said client-ID can be downloaded by said FRU via said bus.
- 11. (Original) The computer network system of claim 10, wherein said FRU uses an Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) protocol to download said client-ID from said non-volatile memory via said bus.
- 12. (Original) The computer network system of claim 10, wherein said FRU uses said clientid for Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) booting.
- 13. (Currently amended) The computer network system of claim [[9]] 1, wherein said central resource retrieves and makes said client-id available to a new FRU and wherein said new FRU downloads said client-ID via said bus when said new FRU is held by said FRU slot.
- 14. (Original) The computer network system of claim 1, further comprising a second FRU slot located on said backplane and wherein said central resource generates a second client-ID.

- 15. (Original) The computer network system of claim 14, wherein said client-ID is uniquely generated by said central resource for said FRU slot and said second client-ID is uniquely generated by said central resource for said second FRU slot.
- 16. (Original) A method for client-ID generation on a computer network system, comprising: generating a client-ID via a central resource; associating said client-ID with a field replaceable unit (FRU) slot; storing said associated client-ID in a non-volatile memory; providing said stored client-ID to an FRU via an interface; and utilizing said client-ID by said FRU.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said FRU is inserted into said FRU slot associated with said client-ID.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said utilizing said client-ID by said FRU comprises utilizing said client-ID as a client-ID field for Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) booting.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising: determining whether said FRU is to be replaced by a new FRU; retrieving and making said client-ID available to said new FRU; and downloading said client-id by said new FRU.
- 20. (Cancelled)